

Foho Ramelau is one of the most popular songs sung by the people and Fretilin guerrillas in East Timor today, and represents the invincible will of the maubere (the poor, downtrodden) people for their independence and liberation.

FOHO RAMELAU

REFRAIN:

Eh! Foho Ramelau, foho Ramelau, eh!
Sa be as liu o tutun sa be bein liu o lolon eh!

I

Tan sa Timur ulun sudur uai-uain?
Tan sa Timur oan ata uai-uain?
Tani sa Timur oan hakruk bei-beik?
Tan sa Timur oan atan bei-beik?

II

Hader rai-hun mutun ona la!
Hader loro foun sa'e ona la!

III

Loke matan loro foun to'o iha o knuak
Loke matan loro foun iha ita rain

IV

Hader kaer rasik kuda talin eh!
Hader ukun rasik ita rain eh!

MOUNT RAMELAU

REFRAIN:

Eh! Mount Ramelau, Mount Ramelau, eh!
What is higher than your peak?
What is greater than your majesty?

I

Why, Timor, is your head forever bowed?
Why, Timor, are your children enslaved?
Why, Timor, do your children doze like chickens?
Why, Timor, do your children doze like slaves?

II

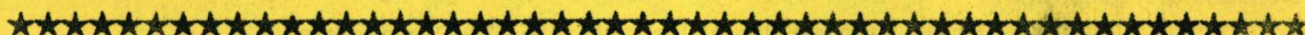
Awake! The mountain is light!
Awake! A new sun has risen!

III

Open your eyes! A new sun is over your village
Open your eyes! A new sun is over our land.

IV

Awake! Seize the reins of your horse
Awake! Let us rule our own country!



KDALAK (Streams)

Words: Borja da Costa
Music: Abilio de Araujo

Sung by Abilio de Araujo and Estanislau Silva, accompanying themselves on piano and guitar.

As with Foho Ramelau, the poetry of Kdalak is an example of metaphorical language. It is a call for the unity of all the East Timorese people, in which their power is compared to streams, which when taken individually have little power, but when united into a great river, can overcome any obstacle.

It is a unity necessary to withstand "the wind which blows from the sea", a reference to foreign forces - colonialism and imperialism - which, during long centuries of unbridled exploitation, have left a legacy of misery and poverty, symbolised here by the kabala (a garment worn by East Timorese men which is fastened at the waist).

The music is written in the pentatonic scale, inspired mainly by the songs of the tebe - a Timorese dance - which always present the simple refrain "O hele o" a refrain for which there is no exact translation.

KDALAK

REFRAIN:

O hele o, o hele ole, o hele le,
O hele o, o hele o, hele le hele o.

I

Kdalak suli mutuk fila ue inan
Ue inan tan malu sa ben ta'han
be dalan hamatuk fila be inan
be inan tan malu sa ben tahan.

II

Nanu'u timur oan sei hamatuk
Hamutuk ata tahan anin sut taci
Nune timur oan se hamatuk
Hamutuk ata tahan anin hu hosi taci

III

Anin sut sut taci sut Kabala
Sut ita mata laran ita Kotuc laran
Anin hu hosi taci hu Kabala
Baku ita mata laran ita kotuc laran

IV

Sut ita lun turu ita Kosar turu
Susu ita rai bokur ita isi bokur
Baku ita mata ben turu ita kosar turu
Susu ita rai bokur ita isi bokur.

V

Kdalak suli mutuk fila ue inan
Timor oan hamatuk tane ita rain
Be dalan hamutuk fila be inan
Timur oan hamutuk tane ita rain.

STREAMS

REFRAIN:

O hele o, o hele ole, o hele le,
O hele o, o hele o hele, le hele o.

I

Streams flowing together become rivers
Rivers increase, whatever opposes them.

II

So must the children of Timor unite
Unite to resist the wind that blows from the sea.

III

The wind that blows from the sea whips the
kabala
Whips our eyes bloody, whips our backs bloody.

IV

Makes our tears roll down, our sweat flow down
Sucks the fat from our earth, the fat from our odies.
Streams flowing together become rivers
Children of Timor, united we shall restore our
land.

